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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/801,262	03/15/2004	Aleksandra Niedzwiecki	RATH-012	2275
7590		08/05/2008	EXAMINER	
Ali Kamarci, Esq. 280 Colorado Avenue Palo Alto, CA 94301			CHOI, FRANK I	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1616	
		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
		08/05/2008	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/801,262	Applicant(s) NIEDZWIECKI ET AL.
	Examiner FRANK I. CHOI	Art Unit 1616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 July 2007.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1,2,4-8,10,11 and 13 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1,2,4-8,10,11 and 13 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/06)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTC-152)
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1,2,4-8,10,11,13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boulos et al. (US Pat. 6,914,073) in view of Gravish et al., Tedeschi et al., Wilcox et al., Duan et al., Murakami et al., Kim, Brevetti (US Pat. 4,968,719), Pertosa et al. and Kawano et al. (US Pat. 3,405,120).

Boulos et al. disclose composition for benefiting cardiovascular health, including slowing the progression of atherosclerosis containing lysine, proline, arginine, Vitamin C, magnesium, green tea, selenium, copper and manganese which can be administered orally as a tablet or capsule which are formulated using various excipients(Column 3, lines 40-55,Column 6, lines 10-20, 40-46, Column 7, lines 65-67, Column 9, lines 8-26, Columns 11, 12).

Gavish et al. disclose that high levels of lipoprotein (a) is associated with atherosclerotic disease and that administration of N-acetylcysteine was effective in lowering plasma levels of lipoprotein (a) (Abstract).

Tedeschi et al. disclose that both Green Tea and vitamin C have antiinflammatory activity (Page 435).

Wilcox et al. disclose that the naringenin, is a citrus flavonoid, which has antiatherogenic properties and that flavonoids have anti-inflammatory properties (Pages 160, 164-166).

Duan et al. discloses that glucosamine increases heparin sulfate proteogycans in vivo and inhibits atherosclerosis (Abstract).

Murakami et al. disclose that taurine improves serum cholesterol levels and retards the progression of atherosclerosis (Pg. 68, Abstract).

Kim discloses that glucosamine and taurine have anti-inflammatory activity (abstract).

Brevetti disclose the treatment of arteriosclerosis with L-carnitine (Column 2, lines 19-21, Column 3, lines 39-44).

Pertosa et al. disclose a wide range of hemodialysis-related pathologies, including accelerated atherosclerosis, have been associated with oxidative stress and that L-carnitine balances signaling mechanisms underlying the systemic inflammation in hemodialysis (Abstract).

Kawano et al. disclose the treatment of arteriosclerosis and inflammatory rheumatism with chondroitin sulfate (Column 2, lines 1-20).

The prior art discloses the combination of lysine, proline, arginine, Vitamin C, magnesium, green tea, selenium, copper, manganese for slowing the progression of atherosclerosis and benefiting cardiovascular health. The difference between the prior art and the claimed invention is that the prior art does not expressly disclose the treatment of inflammation or the addition of acetyl-cysteine. However, the prior art amply suggests the same as the prior art discloses that acetyl cysteine is effective in lowering high lipoprotein (a) plasma levels, which is a risk factor for atherosclerosis and that Vitamin C and Green Tea have anti-inflammatory activity. Further, the prior art discloses and/or suggests that citrus bioflavonoids, L-carnitine, glucosamine, taurine and chondroitin sulfate have anti-inflammatory activity and

would be effective in slowing the progression of arteriosclerosis or atherosclerosis. As such, it would have been well within the skill of and one of ordinary skill in the art would have expected that the combination of acetyl cysteine, citrus bioflavonoids, L-carnitine, glucosamine, tuarine and chondroitin sulfate would add to the anti-atherosclerotic activity of the prior art composition and that the prior art composition would also be effective in treating inflammation in view of the anti-inflammatory properties of citrus bioflavonoids, L-carnitine, glucosamine, tuarine, chondroitin sulfate, green tea and vitamin C.

The Examiner has duly considered the Applicant's arguments but deems them unpersuasive.

The Applicant argues that not all claim limitations are taught by the prior art, however, as indicated above the prior art does disclose and/or suggest the combination of lysine, proline, arginine, vitamin C, magnesium , green tea extract, N-acetyl-cysteine, selenium, copper, manganese, citrus bioflavonoids, L-carnitine, glucosamine, tuarine and chondroitin sulfate. As such, the prior art does teach or suggest the claimed invention.

Therefore, the claimed invention, as a whole, would have been *prima facie* obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, because every element of the invention has been collectively taught by the combined teachings of the references.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

Art Unit: 1616

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

A facsimile center has been established in Technology Center 1600. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:45 AM to 4:45 PM. The telecopier number for accessing the facsimile machine is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frank Choi whose telephone number is (571)272-0610. Examiner maintains a compressed schedule and may be reached Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 6:00 am – 4:30 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, Johann R. Richter, can be reached at (571)272-0646. Additionally, Technology Center 1600's Receptionist and Customer Service can be reached at (571) 272-1600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Frank Choi
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1600
August 7, 2008

/Johann R. Richter/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1616